

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mrs. M. Fran Burrell, District I Mr. Jerry D. Dyar, District II
Mr. Michael E. Harper, District III Mr. Roy B. Strickland, District IV
Mr. Johnny D. Stone, District V

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Oconee County Council was held Tuesday, March 5, 1991 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers with all Council Members and the County Attorney present.

Members of the press notified (by mail): Seneca Journal, Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Anderson Independent, Greenville News, WGOG Radio, WSNW Radio, WBES Radio, WZLI/WLET Radio, WYFF TV & WLOS TV.

Press

Members of the press present: Robin Boyle - Seneca Journal, Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio, Ron Barnett - Greenville News & Tom Johnson - Anderson Independent.

All other persons who have asked to be notified of meetings were also notified by mail.

Other Persons

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Chairman Crain who welcomed the guests and media.

Call to Order

The invocation was given by Mrs. Burrell.

Invocation

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the minutes of the February 19, 1991 meeting be adopted as printed.

Minutes

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, approved 5 - 0 that paragraph three, page 2 of the February 5, 1991 be amended to read: Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the \$50,000 in the Planning Commission Budget be used to update the 201 Plan and if the cost exceeds this amount the Sewer Commission will pay the difference. The motion included the Sewer Commission to solicit proposals, review the proposals, interview prospective engineering firms as well as select the firm to update the 201 Plan. This update is to include the study for the need for holding tanks.

Amendment
to 2/5/91
Minutes

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that an arts contract in the amount of \$1,300 be approved for a photo workshop at Seneca High School.

Arts Contract

Ms. Nancy Clayton issued an invitation to Council to attend a luncheon meeting Tuesday, March 12, 1991 at 11:45 AM at the American Legion Hut, Seneca for a presentation by Mr. Steve Pelissier of SC Appalachian Council of Governments on "Defining the Comprehensive Land Use Plan" and Mr. Tom Hendricks, Administrator of Pickens County give a presentation on "Comprehensive Land Use Planning and the Pickens Community"

Palmetto
Leadership

At the request of Ms. Linda Winchester of the Solicitor's Office, and after Mr. Brandt, County Attorney, gave an opinion that it would be legal to do so Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the Solicitor's Office be allowed to trade a Tandy 3000 computer for software valued at \$500. (See attachment)

Solicitor

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Strickland, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfer for the Solicitor's Office be adopted.

Solicitor
(Transfer)

Mr. Barry Earnhardt addressed Council regarding the proposal to divide \$1,500,000 equally between Seneca, Walhalla & Westminster for the purpose of correcting I & I problems. Mr. Earnhardt stated unemployment was on the rise in Oconee County, unemployment in Oconee County is higher than the state average. From January 1, 1990 until January 1, 1991 unemployment has risen from 4.8% to 6.5%. He further stated the proposed division of funds excluded at least one municipality. Mr. Earnhardt stated he felt that adding \$16.02 per month to the user fees would be a fair way to pay for the repair of the lines. He further stated he felt that if the county was going to give the towns the funds to correct the sewer line problems it should be done contingent upon the towns submitting a plan to the county on how the repairs are to be done and how problems will be prevented in the future. He further asked Council to reconsider a tax increase and look for other funding means.

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfer for the Supervisor's Office be adopted and the bid for a dump truck for the road department be awarded to Eastern Carolina Ford Truck Sales at a total cost of \$61,666.86. (See attached bid)

Supervisor
(Transfer)
(Truck)

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the bid for road signs for the road department be awarded to Hall Signs at a total cost of \$5,574.93. (See attached bid)

Supervisor
(Road Signs)

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, approved 5 - 0 that \$3,600 be taken from contingency for the purchase of electrical equipment and the renting of a trencher to wire twenty-five (25) camp sites at South Cove Park. The labor will be done by county employees and inmates.

PRT
(Contingency)

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that \$14,100 be taken from contingency and placed in line item number 10 055 00150 00041 for Prestige Phone Company to install the COMDIAL phone system in the Department of Social Services Offices.

DSS Phones

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that \$360 be taken from contingency for the installation of a phone line in the Oakway area as a back up for 911 in that area.

911 Line

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that the attached agreement between Oconee County and the City of Seneca be adopted for diversion of flow of pump stations in the City of Seneca as per attachment A of the agreement.

Sewer Contract

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, that Ordinance 91-1, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$1,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 1991, of Oconee County, South Carolina, for the Purpose of Providing Grants to

Ord. 91-1

Municipalities to the Sewer System of Such Municipalities, Such Improvements Being for Economic Development and Improved Public Health Throughout Oconee County; Authorizing the Distribution of a Preliminary Official Statement and a Final Official Statement; Fixing the Form and Details of th Bonds; Authorizing the County Supervisor to Prescribe Certain Matters Relating to the Bonds; Providing for the Payment of the Bonds and the Disposition of the Proceeds Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto" be adopted on second reading.

Mr. Strickland apologized for losing his temper during the administrative briefing and stated he would never vote for political or personal reasons.

Mr. Strickland then made a motion that the County Attorney check with the Attorney General as to the legality of the bond issue according to the bond ordinance.

Mr. Crain ruled this motion out of order due to the fact there was already a motion on the floor.

To Mr. Dyar's inquiry as to the cost to Oconee County for the bond ordinance, Mr. Brandt, County Attorney, stated the three towns (Walhalla, Westminster & Seneca) would receive \$500,000 less bond cost and attorney fees. This would be approximately \$17,000 total.

Ordinance 91-1 was then adopted 3 - 2 (Mr. Strickland and Mr. Dyar voting against).

At the request of Mr. Dyar, the possibility of the county participating in the Premium Only Plan was referred to the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee.

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Strickland, approved 5 - 0 that Mrs. Edith Keasler, 198 Keasler Dr., Seneca, S. C. 29678 be appointed to the Library Board. The term will begin July 1, 1991 and expire June 31, 1995.

Mr. Crain brought to the attention of Council a request from the City of Walhalla for 340 tons of gravel for a walking trail. Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that a policy be adopted regarding giving the towns gravel.

This was referred to the Roads & Transportation Committee.

Mr. Crain reminded Council of the Legislative Delegation Meeting Saturday, March 9, 1991 at 10:00 AM in the courtroom.

After discussion regarding the EPA regulations regarding stormwater regulations, Mr. Harper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone that the Purchasing Director and Supervisor be given authorization to enter into a contract with either Shealy Engineering or SC Appalachian Council of Governments, the most viable one for Oconee County to go with to pursue part one of the application for stormwater permit at a maximum cost of \$3,000.

POP

Library

Gravel
for Walhalla

Legislative
Delegation

Stormwater

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that the motion be amended that a letter be sent to Senator Thurmond, Senator Hollings & Congressman Derrick expressing Oconee County's strong opposition to the way the matter had been handled and also attention be called to the manner of Roger Naylor of the EPA Office toward members of the SC Association of Counties.

Amendment

The original motion was then adopted 5 - 0.

Mr. Crain reminded Council that a new landfill site needs to be selected within the next twelve (12) months.

Landfill

Mr. Crain also informed Council that according to a letter from the SC Association of Counties the county will only receive around 78.3% of the state aid to subdivisions which had been anticipated. This means the county will be short some \$230,000 in this fiscal budget.

State Aid

Mr. Crain informed Council they had been invited to participate in the Oconee Lions Blue Grass Festival April 13, 1991.

Festival

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that the attached work authorizations for the airport be adopted.

Aeronautics

Mr. Crain showed Council a video of Jenkins Bridge.

Jenkins
Bridge

Adjourn: 8:40 PM

Norman D. Crain /sq

Norman D. Crain
Supervisor-Chairman
Oconee County Council